

REMARKS

Claims 1-49 are currently pending in the present Application. Claims 43-47 currently stand rejected, and claims 1-42 and 48-49 are indicated as being allowed. Accordingly, claims 43-47 are cancelled herein. Reconsideration of the Application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Cancellation Of Rejected Claims

In the Office Action of November 16, 2006, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-42 and 48-49 are allowed. The Examiner has also indicated that claims 43-47 remain rejected. Because of the Applicants' wish to expedite the allowance and issuance of the present Application, Applicants therefore refrain from further discussing the cited reference, and instead, herein cancel all currently rejected claims without prejudice to thereby place the Application in condition for immediate allowance.

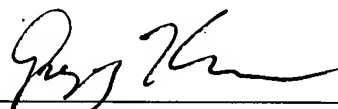
The Applicants expressly state that the rejected claims are not cancelled herein for reasons of patentability. The rejected claims are cancelled solely to expedite the allowance and issuance of the Application. Furthermore, the Applicants also reserve the right to seek allowance of any additional claims in Applications that may claim priority in the present Application.

Summary

Applicants submit that the foregoing amendments and remarks place the Application in condition for immediate allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to pass claims 1-42 and 48-49 to issue, so that the present Application may issue in a timely manner. If there are any questions concerning this Response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

Gregory J. Koerner, Reg. No. 38,519
Redwood Patent Law
1291 East Hillsdale Blvd., Suite 205
Foster City, CA 94404
Tel: (650) 358-4000